

Appendix B

Nursing Home Resident Attendant Training Program Protocol Version 7-07

Scope:

To provide training to individuals who will provide safe and proper eating and hydration assistance to nursing home residents with *no* complicated eating or drinking problems.

Program Criteria:

- The training program shall be conducted by a registered nurse, and may include the assistance of a registered dietitian;
- The training shall provide a minimum of eight (8) hours of classroom instruction, and participants shall demonstrate an understanding of topics that includes but is not limited to:
 - Eating techniques;
 - Physical mechanics of:
 - Breathing and swallowing;
 - Aspiration;
 - Choking
 - Assistance with eating and hydration (drinking);
 - Infection control;
 - Resident rights;
 - Communication and interpersonal skills;
 - Appropriate responses to resident behavior;
 - Safety and emergency procedures, including the Heimlich maneuver;
- The training shall provide, either directly or through arrangements with a nursing facility, a minimum of four (4) hours of practical experience supervised by a registered nurse.

Classroom Demonstration:

- ✓ Completion of eight (8) hours of classroom instruction and demonstration of topic competency to the satisfaction of the registered nurse trainer.

Practical Demonstration:

- ✓ Completion of four (4) hours of practical experience supervised by a registered nurse.

Certificate of Completion:

- ✓ Certificate of classroom completion signed by registered nurse trainer and bearing the Department program approval certification number and including an area for documentation of satisfactory completion of practical experience, similar to Appendix C.

Program Approval:

Organizations or facilities interested in providing a resident attendant eating assistance program should submit a letter of intent to HEALTH, Office of Facilities Regulation, c/o Eating Assistance Program, 3

Capital Hill, Providence, RI 02908. The request must include:

- ✓ An outline of the structure and format for the program;
- ✓ Resume/curriculum vita for the registered nurse trainer and other trainers;
- ✓ Curriculum/program outline to be utilized;
- ✓ Method of ensuring participants' successful demonstration of competencies;
- ✓ Program contact information.

Following review by HEALTH, numbered program approvals will be provided.